Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A content acquisition method ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

~~a file request information sending step of, in response to a request for content data,~~ sending file request information that requests an acquire/use file storing acquire/use content identification information ~~including~~ and content ~~data~~ attribute information, to an acquire/use information providing device in response to a request for content data[[,]];

~~an information receiving step of, in response to said sent content data request,~~ receiving via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of functions of the content receiving side,~~ said acquire/use file that stores the content identification information and said attribute information of said content data sent by said acquire/use information providing device ~~data in a portion where such~~ in response to the content data request, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device[[,]];

~~a content request information sending step of~~ sending content request information requesting said content data [[to]] from a content providing device according to said acquire/use information contained in said acquire/use file[[,]]; and

~~a content receiving step of~~ receiving said content data sent by said content providing device in response to the transmission of said content request information.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that said~~ wherein the attribute information corresponding to said content data comprises includes data size information of said content data.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition method according to claim 2, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~a comparison step of~~ comparing said data size information of said content data contained in said acquire/use file with [[the]] a free space of a recording media to be used to record said content data upon reception[[,]]; and

~~a notification step of, based on the results of said comparison by said comparison step,~~ notifying a lack of said free space in said recording media for storing the content data if said free space in said recording media is insufficient.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition method according to claim 2, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~a determination step of, after receiving said content data,~~ comparing the data size of received [[said]] content data with said data size information of said content data contained in said acquire/use file, and determining whether ~~or not said~~ the content data [[is]] has been successfully received.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition method according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said ~~information~~ receiving via a proxy device [[step]] receives said acquire/use file sent in compliance with HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol) from said acquire/use information providing device, said acquire/use file storing said content identification information and said attribute information of said content data in its main section.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): An acquire/use information providing method ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

~~a request information receiving step of~~ receiving file request information [[for]] requesting an acquire/use file that stores acquire/use content identification information ~~containing~~ and content attribute information of content data, sent by a content acquisition device in response to a request for the content data by a content data acquisition device; and

~~an information sending step of, in response to the received file request information,~~ sending via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of the functions of the content receiving-side~~ to said content acquisition device, said acquire/use file that stores content data content identification information and the attribute information of the content ~~data in a portion where such~~, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device, in response to the received file request information.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The acquire/use information providing method according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said attribute information corresponding to said content ~~comprises~~ data includes data size information of said content data.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The acquire/use information providing method according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said ~~information~~ sending via a proxy device [[step]] sends said acquire/use file in compliance with HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol), said acquire/use file storing said content identification information and said data size information of said content data in its main section.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A content acquisition device ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

a file request information sending unit configured to send ~~means of, in response to a request for content data,~~ sending file request information that requests an acquire/use file storing acquire/use content identification information ~~including~~ and content ~~data~~ attribute information, to an acquire/use information providing device in response to a request for content data [[,]];

an information receiving unit configured to receive ~~means of, in response to said sent content data request, receiving~~ via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of functions of the content receiving side,~~ said acquire/use file that stores the content identification information and said attribute information of said content data sent by said acquire/use information providing device ~~data in a portion where such~~ in response to the content data request, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device[[,]];

a content request information sending unit configured to send ~~means of sending~~ content request information requesting said content data [[to]] from a content providing device according to said acquire/use information contained in said acquire/use file[[,]]; and

a content receiving unit configured to receive ~~means of receiving~~ said content data sent by said content providing device in response to the transmission of said content request information.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition device according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that said~~ wherein the attribute information corresponding to said content data ~~comprises~~ includes data size information of said content data.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition device according to claim 10, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

a comparison unit configured to compare ~~means of comparing said~~ the data size information of said content data contained in said acquire/use file with [[the]] a free space of a recording media to be used to record said content data upon reception[[,]]; and

a notification unit configured to notify ~~means of, based on the results of said comparison by said comparison means, notifying~~ a lack of said free space in said recording media for storing the content data if said free space in said recording media is insufficient.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition device according to claim 10, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

a determination unit configured to compare ~~means of, after receiving said content data, comparing~~ the data size of received [[said]] content data with said data size information of said content data contained in said acquire/use file, and ~~determining~~ determine whether ~~or not said~~ the content data [[is]] has been successfully received.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The content acquisition device according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein:

said information receiving unit is configured to receive ~~means receives~~ said acquire/use file sent in compliance with HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol) from said acquire/use information providing device, said acquire/use file storing said content identification information and said attribute information of said content data in its main section.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): An acquire/use information providing device ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

a request information receiving unit configured to request ~~means of receiving file request information for requesting~~ an acquire/use file that stores acquire/use content identification information ~~containing~~ and content attribute information of content data, sent by a content acquisition device in response to a request for the content data by a content data acquisition device; and

an information sending unit configured to send ~~means of, in response to the received file request information, sending~~ via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of the functions of the content receiving side~~ to said content acquisition device, said acquire/use file that stores content data content identification information and the attribute information of the content ~~data in a portion where such~~, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The acquire/use information providing device according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that: said~~ wherein the attribute information corresponding to said content ~~comprises~~ includes data size information of said content data.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The acquire/use information providing device according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein said information sending unit is configured to send ~~means sends said~~ the acquire/use file in compliance with HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol), said acquire/use file storing said content identification information and said data size information of said content data in its main section.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A ~~content acquisition~~ computer readable recording medium storing a program ~~for performing~~, which when executed by a processor, causes the processor to execute a procedure comprising:

~~a file request information sending step of, in response to a request for content data,~~ sending file request information that requests an acquire/use file storing acquire/use content identification information ~~including~~ and content ~~data~~ attribute information, to an acquire/use information providing device in response to a request for content data[[,]];

~~an information receiving step of, in response to said sent content data request,~~ receiving via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of functions of the content receiving side,~~ said acquire/use file that stores the content identification information and said attribute information of said content data sent by said acquire/use information providing device ~~data in a portion where such~~ in response to the content data request, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device[[,]];

~~a content request information sending step of~~ sending content request information requesting said content data [[to]] from a content providing device according to said acquire/use information contained in said acquire/use file[[,]]; and

~~a content receiving step of~~ receiving said content data sent by said content providing device in response to the transmission of said content request information.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~An acquire/use information providing~~ A computer readable recording medium storing a program ~~for performing~~ which when executed by a processor causes the processor to execute a procedure comprising:

~~a request information receiving step of~~ receiving file request information [[for]] requesting an acquire/use file that stores acquire/use content identification information ~~containing~~ and content attribute information of content data, sent by a content acquisition device in response to a request for the content data by a content data acquisition device; and

~~an information sending step of, in response to the received file request information,~~ sending via a proxy device ~~for undertaking some of the functions of the content receiving-side~~ to said content acquisition device, said acquire/use file that stores content data content identification information and the attribute information of the content ~~data in a portion where such~~, said content identification information and content attribute information are stored in a data area such that no information is [[not]] removed when the acquire/use file passes through said proxy device, in response to the received file request information.